

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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## DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

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Reply To: (213) 738-4978  
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March 31, 2010

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W.  
Director of Mental Health

SUBJECT: **ADVANCE NOTICE OF INTENT TO RENEW THE EXISTING SOLE  
SOURCE CONTRACT WITH PHILLIPS GRADUATE INSTITUTE**

This memo is to comply with the Board of Supervisors Policy 5.100 regarding sole source contracts. It is the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health's (DMH) intent to continue a sole source contract with Phillips Graduate Institute (PGI) located in Supervisorial District Three at 5445 Balboa Boulevard, Encino, CA 91316. This is a Fiscal Intermediary Agreement for Academic Training and Student Professional Development.

PGI serves as a lead fiscal agency for the Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT) Consortium of Schools, which is comprised of accredited MFT graduate schools in Southern California. There are over 15 schools in the Southern California area belonging to the MFT Consortium. PGI serves as the connection between the MFT Consortium of Schools and DMH and as the fiscal intermediary for the DMH Stipend Program to distribute checks to MFT students who are committing to a career in mental health to serve the diverse needs of residents of Los Angeles County. Upon completion of this stipend program, these MFT students have the option of working for a DMH directly operated program or contracted agency provided employment opportunities are available.

The goal of the DMH Stipend Program, with the assistance of the fiscal intermediary, is to attract bilingual and bicultural MFT students to establish careers working in the Los Angeles County public mental health system, who will provide services in all of the Supervisorial districts. The DMH Stipend Program reflects DMH's immediate need to train MFTs, not only for its directly operated programs, but for its contract agencies, who are trained in a series of competencies based mental health service delivery models funded by the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA). Such competencies support and promote recovery and wellness through independence, hope, personal development and resiliency for children, adults, and older adults with serious emotional and behavioral disorders. Additionally, DMH and its contract providers need MFTs who are: culturally and linguistically competent, able to provide services that are sensitive and

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responsive to the needs of local communities, and committed to focus on issues of ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation and religious/spiritual beliefs. Consistent with the shared vision of the mental health partnership, these MFTs are trained to provide services in the least restrictive and most appropriate setting, with attention to consumer and family involvement at all levels of the mental health system. These students are trained to address the special mental health needs of persons with co-occurring substance abuse and emotional disorders and be able to recognize that these individuals and their families are at risk for diverse bio-psycho-social factors which can affect their functioning.

The agreement for PGI expires on June 30, 2010. DMH plans to request approval from your Board to renew the agreement, for a period of three years. The PGI agreement is funded by the MHSA. The Total Compensation Amount for PGI will be \$425,500 for each Fiscal Year 2010-11, 2011-12, and 2012-13. The terms of the Agreement will be effective upon Board approval through June 30, 2013, and each with three, one-year renewal options.

Unless otherwise instructed by your Board office within two weeks, DMH will proceed with the sole source contract. DMH will work closely with both County Counsel and the Chief Executive Office in preparing a new agreement with PGI.

MJS:DM:ed

c: Health Deputies  
Chief Executive Office  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel  
Robin Kay, Ph.D.  
Dennis Murata, M.S.W.  
Contracts Development and Administration